

Eastern Sierra Unified School District

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Don Clark, Ed.D. Superintendent

Board of Trustees

Jimmy Little Melinda Melendrez John Peters Gabe Segura Bob Tems

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington DC 20554

July 31, 2013

Regarding: CC Docket No. 02-6

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I am writing on behalf of Eastern Sierra Unified School District (ESUSD) to request a waiver of the filing window deadline for our E-Rate Form 471 Application Number 935248. This form was filed through the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) on June 20, 2013. This form should have been filed by March 14, 2013.

ESUSD is a small, rural school district with a one person business office. The district hired a new business manager in December of 2012 who received training both regionally and locally on the E-Rate program. The district Superintendent believed that this business manager was completing all required filings. On June 19, 2013 it came to light, in the midst of him leaving his position, that he had failed to file the required form 471 to secure E-Rate funding for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year. The following day, June 23, I filed this form on behalf of the district. Due to the postmark falling outside the filing window, our application was denied.

On the basis of the district's rural, low-income population, limited staff and the extreme financial hardship that would be placed on the district by going through an entire year with no E-Rate funding, we are requesting that you waive the filing window deadline. ESUSD normally receives 77%-80% discounts in telephone and internet services through participation in the E-Rate program. Our rural location means that providing internet services to our small mountain

schools is quite costly. It would be very difficult for the district to afford to pay for these services without the vital support we receive through USAC.

We thank you for considering our request and ask that, if any further information from us, or any other basis for consideration of our request might add to the possibility of approval, you would please contact us to let us know. We would be happy to provide any documentation or walk through any process required.

Sincerely,

Mollie Nugent

Interim Business Manager

mnugent@esusd.org

(760) 932-7443